## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 /112 W

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R 110800Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8956
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD POUCH
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ENRG SUBJECT: KUWAIT OIL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) KUWAIT 4755 (NOTAL, (B) KUWAIT 4742 (NOTAL).

1. UNIFIED PRICE FOR NEUTRAL ZONE OIL. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS QUOTE KUWAIT'S MINISTER OF OIL KZAEMI AS ANNOUNCING IN KUWAIT ON SEPT. 8 THAT KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA HAVE AGREED TO "UNIFY" THE PRICE OF OIL (I.E., CHARGE THE SAME PRICE) PRODUCED IN THE KHAFJI OFFSHORE NEUTRAL ZONE FIELD AT \$12.10 PER BARREL AS OF JULY1, 1977, HAVING REFUSED A REQUEST BY THE ARABIN OIL COMPANY (JAPANESE) FOR A PRICE EIGHT CENTS PER BARREL LOWER THAN THIS OFF OIL FROM THE ZONE. THE AGREEMENT WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REACHED AT THE OAPEC MEETING IN SAUDI ARABIA LAST WEEK. ONE PRESS REPORT HERE ALLEGED THAT THE ARABIAN OIL COMPANY HAD ALREADY LOST SOME 301 MILLION YEN THIS YEAR ON OIL FROM THE ZONE, DUE TO THE TWO TIER PRICE SITUATION UNDER WHICH IT WAS FORCED TO TRY TO SELL THE KUWAIT HALF OF ITS HEAVY CRUDE PRODUCTION AT A 5 PERCENT HIGHER PRICE THAN THE SAUDI PORTION.

- 2. KUWAIT CRUDE PRICE REDUCTION. AFTER SPATE OF ARTICLES IN KUWAIT PRESS RE POSSIBLE REDUCTION IN KUWAIT OIL PRICE, KUWAIT TIMES OF SEPT. 10 FEATURED REPORT SOURCED TO "OFFICIALS" THAT CRUDE PRICE WOULD BE REDUCED 10 CENTS PER BARREL FROM \$12.37 TO \$12.27. ESSENTIALLY AS REPORTED EARLIER BY EMBASSY (REFS A AND B), OFFICIALS SAID KUWAIT AGREED TO THE REDUCTIONS "PROVIDED THE PURCHASING COMPANIES FULFILL THEIR COMMITMENTS TO TAKE THE CONTRACTED OUANTITIES IN FULL."
- 3. KAZEMI OFF TO INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA. OIL MINISTER KAZEMI LEFT SEPT. 8 FOR A WEEK OF VISITS IN INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA, DESCRIBING FOR REPORTERS THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISITS AS DISCUSSIONS OF BILATERAL PROJECTS AND, IN THE CASE OF INDONESIA, THE COORDINATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS FOR THE CARACAS OPEC CONFERENCE. KAZEMI GOES FIRST TO THE INDONESIAN ISLAND OF BATAM, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, TO INSPECT THE LOCATION OF THE PLANNED REFINERY THERE, A JOINT VENTURE FOR WHICH THE GOK IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE 49 PERCENT OF THE CAPITAL.
- 4. AMINOIL TAKEOVER. ONE PRESS REPORT QUOTES KUWAITI OIL MINISTRY ASST. UNDER SEC. NUSEIR AS SAYING THAT THE GOK IS STILL AWAITING A REPLY BY AMINOIL TO THE GOK FINANCIAL PROPOSALS FOR TAKEOVER OF THE COMPANY'S ASSETS IN KUWAIT.
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MAESTRONE

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## Message Attributes

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